

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
International Bureau

D2



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> : H04N 9/31, G03B 21/62, G02B 5/32</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 99/39510</b> <i>made up of the file</i> (43) International Publication Date: 5 August 1999 (05.08.99)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/01618 (22) International Filing Date: 29 January 1998 (29.01.98) (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THOMSON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS, INC. [US/US]; 10330 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46290-1024 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HALL, Estill, Thone, Jr. [US/US]; 7904 Dawson Drive, Fishers, IN 46038 (US). PFILE, Wendy, Rene [US/US]; 4540 Eastbourne Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46226 (US). (74) Agents: TRIPOLI, Joseph, S. et al.; GE &amp; RCA Licensing Management Operation, Inc., P.O. Box 5312, Princeton, NJ 08543 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  Published With international search report.</p>
<p>(54) Title: PROJECTION TELEVISIONS WITH HOLOGRAPHIC SCREENS HAVING STACKED ELEMENTS (57) Abstract A projection screen (22) for a television has a three-dimensional hologram (26) on a film substrate (24). The screen (22) can have a plurality of stacked holograms and/or fresnel lenses having varying optical properties in vertical and horizontal directions, respectively. For example, vertical and horizontal holograms can have varying gain across a horizontal viewing span of <math>\pm 40^\circ</math> and a vertical viewing span of <math>\pm 20^\circ</math>. At least one projection tube (14, 18) is oriented along an optical path (34, 36) that converges at an angle <math>\alpha</math> relative to a line or axis orthogonal with the screen. The hologram forms an interference pattern effective to minimize color shift that otherwise occurs in displayed images due to off axis projection. The screen (22) has a color shift less than or equal to approximately five for angles <math>\alpha</math> between about <math>0^\circ</math> and <math>30^\circ</math>.</p>		

**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece		Republic of Macedonia	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's	NZ	New Zealand		
CM	Cameroon		Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CN	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

# PROJECTION TELEVISIONS WITH HOLOGRAPHIC SCREENS HAVING STACKED ELEMENTS

## BACKGROUND

### 5 Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to the field of projection television receivers, and in particular to projection television receivers having screens providing significantly reduced color shift and/or significantly reduced cabinet depth.

### 10 Background Information

Color shift is defined as the change in the red/blue or green/blue ratio of a white image formed at the center of a projection screen by projected images from red, green and blue projection tubes, when viewed at different angles in the horizontal  
15 plane, by observations made at the peak brightness vertical viewing angle.

The color shift problem is caused by the need for at least three image projectors for respective images of different colors, for example, red, blue and green. A projection screen receives images  
20 from the at least three projectors on a first side and displays the images on a second side with controlled light dispersion of all the displayed images. One of the projectors, usually green and usually in the center of an array of projectors, has a first optical path in a substantially orthogonal orientation with the screen. At least two of  
25 the projectors, usually red and blue and usually positioned on opposite sides of the central green projector in the array, have  
respective optical paths converging toward the first optical path in a

non orthogonal orientation defining angles of incidence. Color shift results from the non orthogonal relationship of the red and blue projectors, relative to the screen and to the green projector. As a result of the color shift, color tones may differ at every position on the screen. The condition in which the color tone difference is large is often referred to as poor white uniformity. The smaller the color shift, the better the white uniformity.

Color shift is denoted by a scale of numbers, in which lower numbers indicate less color shift and better white uniformity. In accordance with a common procedure, values for the red, green and blue luminance are measured at the screen center from a variety of horizontal viewing angles, typically from at least about  $-40^\circ$  to  $+40^\circ$ , to as much as about  $-60^\circ$  to  $+60^\circ$ , in  $5^\circ$  or  $10^\circ$  increments. The positive and negative angles represent horizontal viewing angles to the right and left of screen center, respectively. These measurements are taken at the peak vertical viewing angle. The red, green and blue data is normalized to unity at  $0^\circ$ . One or both of the following equations (I) and (II) are evaluated at each angle:

$$C(\Theta) = 20 \circ \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{red}(\Theta)}{\text{blue}(\Theta)} \right); \quad (\text{I})$$

$$C(\Theta) = 20 \circ \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{green}(\Theta)}{\text{blue}(\Theta)} \right) \quad (\text{II})$$

20

where  $\theta$  is any angle within a range horizontal viewing angles,  $C(\theta)$  is the color shift at angle  $\theta$ ,  $\text{red}(\theta)$  is the red luminance level at

3

angle  $\theta$ ,  $\text{blue}(\theta)$  is the blue luminance level at angle  $\theta$  and  $\text{green}(\theta)$  is the green luminance level at angle  $\theta$ . The maximum of these values is the color shift of the screen.

In general, color shift-should be no larger than 5, nominally,  
5 on any commercially acceptable screen design. Other engineering and design constraints may sometimes require that the color shift be somewhat higher than 5, although such color shift performance is not desirable and usually results in a perceptibly inferior picture with poor white uniformity.

10 Screens for projection television receivers are generally manufactured by an extrusion process utilizing one or more patterned rollers to shape the surface of a thermoplastic sheet material. The configuration is generally an array of lenticular elements, also referred to as lenticules and lenslets. The lenticular  
15 elements may be formed on one or both sides of the same sheet material or on one side only of different sheets which can then be permanently combined as a laminated unit or otherwise mounted adjacent to one another so as to function as a laminated unit. In many designs, one of the surfaces of the screen is configured as a  
20 Fresnel lens to provide light diffusion. Prior art efforts to reduce color shift and improve white uniformity have focused exclusively on two aspects of the screen. One aspect is the shape and disposition of the lenticular elements. The other aspect is the extent to which the screen material, or portions thereof, are doped with  
25 light diffusing particles to control light diffusion. These efforts are exemplified by the following patent documents.

4

In US 4,432,010 and US 4,536,056, a projection screen includes a light-transmitting lenticular sheet having an input surface and an exit surface. The input surface is characterized by horizontally diffusing lenticular profiles having a ratio of a  
5 lenticulated depth  $X_v$  to a close-axis-curvature radius  $R_1$  ( $X_v/R_1$ ) which is within the range of 0.5 to 1.8. The profiles are elongated along the optical axis and form aspherical input lenticular lenses.

The use of a screen with a double sided lenticular lens is common. Such a screen has cylindrical entrance lenticular elements  
10 on an entrance surface of the screen, cylindrical lenticular elements formed on an exit surface of the screen and a light absorbing layer formed at the light non convergent part of the exit surface. The entrance and the exit lenticular elements each have the shape of a circle, ellipse or hyperbola represented by the following equation  
15 (III):

$$Z(x) = \frac{Cx^2}{1 + [1 - (K + 1)C^2x^2]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad (\text{III})$$

wherein  $C$  is a main curvature and  $K$  is a conic constant.

Alternatively, the lenslets have a curve to which a term with a higher order than 2nd order has been added.

20 In screens making use of such a double sided lenticular lens, it has been proposed to specify the position relationship between the entrance lens and exit lens, or the lenticular elements forming the lenses. It has been taught, for example in US 4,443,814, to position the entrance lens and exit lens in such a way that the lens

surface of one lens is present at the focal point of the other lens. It has also been taught, for example in JP 58-59436, that the eccentricity of the entrance lens be substantially equal to a reciprocal of the refractive index of the material constituting the lenticular lens. It has further been taught, for example in US 4,502,755, to combine two sheets of double-sided lenticular lenses in such a way that the optic axis planes of the respective lenticular lenses are at right angles with respect to one another, and to form such double sided lenticular lenses in such a way that the entrance lens and exit lens at the periphery of one of the lenses are asymmetric with respect to the optic axis. It is also taught, in US 4,953,948, that the position of light convergence only at the valley of an entrance lens should be offset toward the viewing side from the surface of an exit lens so that the tolerance for misalignment of optic axes and the difference in thickness can be made larger or the color shift can be made smaller.

In addition to the various proposals for decreasing the color shift or white non uniformity, other proposals for improving projection screen performance are directed to brightening pictures and ensuring appropriate visual fields in both the horizontal and vertical directions. A summary of many such proposals can be found in US 5,196,960, which itself teaches a double sided lenticular lens sheet comprising an entrance lens layer having an entrance lens, and an exit lens layer having an exit lens whose lens surface is formed at the light convergent point of the entrance lens, or in the vicinity thereof, wherein the entrance lens layer and the exit lens

layer are each formed of a substantially transparent thermoplastic resin and at least the exit layer contains light diffusing fine particles and wherein a difference exists in the light diffusion properties between the entrance lens layer and the exit lens layer. A plurality of entrance lenses comprise a cylindrical lens. The exit lens is formed of a plurality of exit lens layers, each having a lens surface at the light convergent point of each lens of the entrance lens layer, or in the vicinity thereof. A light absorbing layer is also formed at the light non convergent part of the exit lens layer. This screen design is said to provide sufficient horizontal visual field angle, decreased color shift and a brighter picture, as well as ease of manufacture by extrusion processes.

Despite many years of aggressive developments in projection screen design, the improvements have been incremental, at best. Moreover, there has been no success in surpassing certain benchmarks. The angle of incidence defined by the geometric arrangement of the image projectors, referred to as angle  $\alpha$  herein, has generally been limited to the range of greater than  $0^\circ$  and less than or equal to about  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ . The size of the image projectors and/or their optics, makes angles of  $\alpha$  close to  $0^\circ$  essentially impossible. In the range of the angles of  $\alpha$  less than about  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ , the best color shift performance which has been achieved is about 5, as determined in accordance with equations (I) and (II). In the range of the angles of a greater than about  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ , the best color shift performance which has been achieved is not commercially acceptable. In fact, projection television receivers



7

having angles of  $\alpha$  greater than  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$  are not known to have been marketed.

Small angles of  $\alpha$  have a significant and undesirable consequence, namely a very large cabinet depth is needed to house  
5 a projection television receiver. The large depth is a direct result of the need to accommodate optical paths having small angles of incidence ( $\alpha$ ). For a given size of the image projectors and optical elements, the angle of incidence can be reduced only by increasing the length of the optical path between the image projectors or their  
10 optics and the screen. Techniques for reducing the size of projection television cabinets generally rely on mirrors for folding long optical paths. The color shift success of such efforts is ultimately limited because there is a low limit to the range of possible angles of incidence.

15 Polaroid Corporation sells a photo polymer designated DMP-128<sup>®</sup>, which Polaroid Corporation can manufacture as a three dimensional hologram, using proprietary processes. The holographic manufacturing process is described, in part, in US 5,576,853. Holographic photo polymers are generally useful for  
20 recording photographic images by splitting coherent light into an illumination beam and a reference beam. The illumination beam irradiates the subject. The reflected beam from the subject and the reference beam, which bypasses the subject, irradiate the photo polymer medium, which contains a developable light sensitive  
25 photographic composition. The light waves of the two beams interfere, that is, by constructive and destructive interference they

produce a standing wave pattern of sinusoidal peaks which locally expose the photographic composition, and nulls which do not locally expose the composition. When the photographic medium is developed, a corresponding interference pattern is recorded in the medium. By illuminating the medium with a coherent reference beam, the image of the subject is reproduced and can be viewed over a range of apparent angles.

The recorded interference pattern of a hologram representing a typical photographic subject is complex because light from all the illuminated points on the subject interfere with the reference beam at all points on the hologram. It would be possible by recording the image of a blank "subject" (effectively by interfering two reference beams), to make a blank hologram in which the interference pattern is more regular. In that case the interference pattern would resemble a diffraction grating but the pitch or resolution of the diffraction grating would be quite fine compared to the pitch of a projection screen having macro sized lenticular elements shaped to bend or refract light in a particular direction from rearward projection tubes.

A three dimensional holographic screen for a projection television was proposed by Polaroid Corporation, as one of many suggestions made during efforts to establish a market for the DMP-128® photo polymer holographic product. The proposal was based on advantages which Polaroid Corporation expected in terms of higher brightness and resolution, lower manufacturing cost, lower weight, and resistance to the abrasion to which two-piece screens

are subjected during shipping. Polaroid Corporation never proposed any particular holographic configuration for the volume holographic elements which might make up such a holographic projection television screen, and never even considered the problem of color shift in projection television screens of any type, holographic or otherwise.

Overall, despite years of intensive development to provide a projection television receiver having a screen with a color shift less than 5, even significantly less than 5, or having a color shift as low as 5 for angles of  $\alpha$  even greater than  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ , there have been no advances in solving the color shift problem other than incremental changes in the shapes and positions of lenticular elements and diffusers in conventional projection screens. Moreover, despite suggestions that three dimensional holograms might be useful for projection screens, although for reasons having nothing to do with color shift, there has been no effort to provide projection televisions with three dimensional holographic screens. A long felt need for a projection television receiver having significantly improved color shift performance, which can also be built into a significantly smaller cabinet, has remained unsatisfied.

#### SUMMARY

A projection television receiver in accordance with the inventive arrangements taught herein provides such a significant improvement in color shift performance, measured in orders of magnitude, that a color shift of 2 or less can be achieved with projection television receivers having angles of incidence  $\alpha$  in the

10

range of less than  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ . Moreover, the color shift performance is so significant that commercially acceptable projection television receivers having angles of incidence up to about  $30^\circ$  can be provided, in much smaller cabinets. The color shift performance of  
5 such large  $\alpha$  angle receivers is at least as good as conventional small  $\alpha$  angle receivers, for example having a color shift of 5, and can be expected to approach or even reach values as low as about 2, as in the small  $\alpha$  angle receivers.

These results are achieved by forsaking the extruded lens  
10 screen technology altogether. Instead,  $\alpha$  projection television receiver in accordance with an inventive arrangement has a screen formed by a three dimensional hologram formed on a substrate, for example, a polyethylene film, such as Mylar®.

Such a three dimensional holographic screen was originally  
15 developed for its expected advantages in terms of higher brightness and resolution, and lower manufacturing cost, lower weight and resistance to abrasion to which two-piece screens are subjected, for example during shipping. The discovery of the color shift performance of the three dimensional holographic screen came  
20 about when testing to determine if the optical properties of the three dimensional screen would be at least as good as a conventional screen. The color shift performance of the three dimensional holographic screen, as measured by equations (I) and (II), was so unexpectedly low as to be shocking. The barriers which  
25 limited prior art improvements to incremental steps had been eliminated altogether. Moreover, smaller cabinets with projection

11

geometry characterized by larger  $\alpha$  angles of incidence can now be developed.

A projection television having the unexpected properties associated with three dimensional holographic screens, and in accordance with the inventive arrangements taught herein, comprises: at least three image projectors for respective images of different colors; a projection screen formed by a three dimensional hologram disposed on a substrate, the screen receiving images from the projectors on a first side and displaying the images on a second side with controlled light dispersion of all the displayed images; one of the projectors having a first optical path in a substantially orthogonal orientation with the screen and at least two of the projectors having respective optical paths converging toward the first optical path in a non orthogonal orientation defining angles of incidence; and, the three dimensional hologram representing a three dimensional interference array or diffraction pattern having a configuration effective for reducing color shift in the displayed images, the screen having a color shift less than or equal to approximately 5 for all the angles of incidence in a range greater than 0° and less than or equal to approximately 30°, as determined by the maximum value obtained from at least one of the following expressions:

$$C(\Theta) = 20 \circ \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{red}(\Theta)}{\text{blue}(\Theta)} \right);$$

12

$$C(\Theta) = 20 \circ \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{green}(\Theta)}{\text{blue}(\Theta)} \right)$$

where  $\theta$  is any angle within a range horizontal viewing angles,  $C(\theta)$  is the color shift at angle  $\theta$ ,  $\text{red}(\theta)$  is the red luminance level at angle  $\theta$ ,  $\text{blue}(\theta)$  is the blue luminance level at angle  $\theta$  and  $\text{green}(\theta)$  is the green luminance level at angle  $\theta$ . The color shift of the screen can be expected to be less than 5, for example, less than or equal to approximately 4, 3 or even 2.

In terms of the known barrier at an angle of incidence of about  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ , the color shift of the screen is less than or equal to approximately 2 for all the angles of incidence in a first subrange of angles of incidence greater than  $0^\circ$  and less than or equal to approximately  $10^\circ$ ; and, the color shift of the screen is less than or equal to approximately 5 for all the angles of incidence in a second subrange of angles of incidence greater than approximately  $10^\circ$  and less than or equal to approximately  $30^\circ$ .

The screen further comprises a light transmissive reinforcing member, for example, of an acrylic material in a layer having a thickness in the range of approximately 2 - 4 mm. The substrate comprises a highly durable, transparent, water-repellent film, such as a polyethylene terephthalate resin film. The substrate can be a film having a thickness in the range of about 1 - 10 mils. A thickness of about 7 mils has been found to provide adequate support for the three dimensional hologram. The thickness of the film is not related to performance. The three dimensional hologram

13

has a thickness in the range of not more than approximately 20 microns. The projection television may further comprise one or more mirrors between the image projectors and the screen.

According to an inventive aspect, the color shift performance  
5 of the projection screen can be further improved by stacking a plurality of holographic screen elements and/or collimating elements. For example, a holographic screen can be backed by vertical and horizontal linear Fresnel lenses for achieving a desired variation in light transmission properties across a span of vertical or  
10 horizontal viewing angles. Alternatively or in addition, a plurality of holographic screen elements having a variation in light transmission properties across a span of viewing angles can be stacked. According to a practical embodiment, at least two holographic elements are stacked, one providing a predetermined  
15 variation across a vertical span and the other providing a predetermined variation across a horizontal span. In this manner, the brightness of the image across the range of useful viewing angles can be adjusted and optimized to take full advantage of the available illumination. In addition, stacking of holographic elements  
20 and/or collimating elements can accommodate a variety of performance domains at a favorable cost, because linearly varying elements can be manufactured at a lower cost than circularly varying elements. For example, linearly varying fresnel elements can be embossed or roller extruded, at a cost as low as 25% of the  
25 cost of a circular fresnel. Similarly, a linearly varying holographic master is less complicated and less expensive than a circular one

14

defining variations in two dimensions.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 is a diagrammatic representation of a projection television in accordance with the inventive arrangements taught  
5 herein.

FIGURE 2 is a simplified diagram of projection television geometry useful for explaining the inventive arrangements.

FIGURE 3 is a side elevation of a reinforced projection screen according to the inventive arrangements.

10 FIGURE 4 is a schematic representation of an alternative embodiment of a projection screen with two superimposed holograms containing gain variations across horizontal and vertical viewing angles, respectively.

FIGURE 5 is a graphic representation of the proportion of peak  
15 white brightness as a function of horizontal viewing angle, using a horizontally varied holographic element with and without the stacked vertically varying holographic element.

FIGURE 6 is a schematic drawing of an alternative  
20 embodiment having stacked holographic and collimating screen layers.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

A projection television receiver 10 is illustrated diagrammatically in FIGURE 1. An array 12 of projection cathode ray tubes 14, 16 and 18 provide red, green and blue images  
25 respectively. The cathode ray tubes are provided with respective lenses 15, 17 and 19. The projected images are reflected by a



15

mirror 20 onto a projection screen 22. Additional mirrors can also be utilized, depending on the particular geometry of the optical paths. The green cathode ray tube 16 projects the green image along an optical path 32, which in this example is oriented  
5 substantially orthogonal to screen 22. In other words, the centerline of the optical path is at right angles to the screen. The red and blue cathode ray tubes have respective optical paths 34 and 36, which converge toward the first optical path 32 in a non orthogonal orientation defining angles of incidence  $\alpha$ . The angles of  
10 incidence introduce the problem of color shift.

The screen 22 comprises a three dimensional hologram 26 disposed on a substrate 24. Hologram 26 is a print of a master hologram substantially forming a diffraction pattern that manages the distribution of light energy from the three projectors 14, 16, 18,  
15 and can be made variable across the width and/or height of the screen. In a preferred arrangement, the hologram is a "center only" hologram that tends to reorient incident light. The screen receives images from the projectors on a first, entrance surface side 28 and displays the images on a second, exit surface side 30, with  
20 controlled light dispersion of all the displayed images. The substrate is preferably a highly durable, transparent, water-repellent film, such as a polyethylene terephthalate resin film. One such film is available from E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. under the trademark Mylar®. The film substrate has a thickness in  
25 the range of about 1 - 10 mils, equivalent to about 0.001 - 0.01 inches or about 25.4 - 254 microns. A film having a thickness of

16

about 7 mils has been found to provide adequate support for the three dimensional hologram disposed thereon. The thickness of the film does not affect screen performance in general or color shift performance in particular, and films of different thickness may be utilized. The three dimensional hologram 26 has a thickness of not more than approximately 20 microns.

Three dimensional holographic screens are available from at least two sources. Polaroid Corporation utilizes a proprietary, wet chemical process to form three dimensional holograms in its DMP-128 photo polymer material. The process includes forming a diffractive holographic pattern in the photo polymer material, which pattern can include variations in screen gain across the range of horizontal and/or vertical viewing angles. A master hologram can be prepared by exposing photo polymer holographic media to coherent light including a reference beam and a beam reflected from a planar pattern having light-to-dark variations corresponding to the desired variation in gain.

A preferred embodiment of the three dimensional holographic screens used in the projection television receivers described and claimed herein were manufactured by the Polaroid Corporation wet chemical process, in accordance with the following performance specifications:

Horizontal half viewing angle:  $38^{\circ} \pm 3^{\circ}$ ,

Vertical half viewing angle:  $10^{\circ} \pm 1^{\circ}$ ,

Screen gain:  $\geq 8$ ,

Color shift:  $\leq 3$ ,

17

where the horizontal and vertical viewing angles are measured conventionally, screen gain is the quotient of light intensity directed from the source toward the rear of the viewing surface, and light intensity from the front of the viewing surface toward the viewer, measured orthogonal to the screen, and color shift is measured as described above. The extraordinary color shift performance of the three dimensional holographic projection screen was, as explained in the Summary, wholly unexpected.

FIGURE 2 is a simplified projection television diagram, omitting the mirror and lenses, for explaining color shift performance. The optical axes 34 and 36 of the red and blue cathode ray tubes 14 and 18 are aligned symmetrically at angles of incidence  $\alpha$  with respect to the optical axis 32 of the green cathode ray tube 16. The minimum depth D of a cabinet is determined by the distance between the screen 22 and the rear edges of the cathode ray tubes. It will be appreciated that if the angle  $\alpha$  is to become smaller, the cathode tubes must be placed closer together and/or must be spaced further from the screen to provide clearance for the tubes. At a sufficiently small angle  $\alpha$ , such interference cannot be avoided. This undesirably increases the minimum depth D of a cabinet. Conversely, as the angle  $\alpha$  gets larger, the cathode ray tubes can be moved closer to the screen 22, reducing the minimum depth D of a cabinet.

On the viewing side of the screen 22, two horizontal half viewing angles are designated  $-\beta$  and  $+\beta$ . Together, a total horizontal viewing angle of  $2\beta$  is defined. The half viewing angles

18

may typically range from  $\pm 40^\circ$  to  $\pm 60^\circ$ . Within each half angle are a plurality of specific angles  $\theta$ , at which color shift can be measured and determined, in accordance with equations (I) and (II) explained above.

5 In terms of the known barrier at an angle of incidence of about  $10^\circ$  or  $11^\circ$ , the color shift of the three dimensional holographic screen is less than or equal to approximately 2 for all the angles of incidence in a first subrange of angles of incidence greater than  $0^\circ$  and less than or equal to approximately  $10^\circ$ ; and, the color shift of  
10 the screen is less than or equal to approximately 5 for all the angles of incidence in a second subrange of angles of incidence greater than approximately  $10^\circ$  and less than or equal to approximately  $30^\circ$ . It is expected that a color shift of less than or equal to approximately 2, as in the first subrange, can also be achieved in  
15 the second subrange of larger angles of incidence.

With reference to FIGURE 3, the substrate 24 comprises a transparent film, such as Mylar®, as described above. The photo polymer material from which the three dimensional hologram 26 is formed is supported on the film layer 24. A suitable photo polymer  
20 material is DMP-128®.

The screen 22 may further comprise a light transmissive reinforcing member 38, for example, of an acrylic material, such as polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA). Polycarbonate materials can also be used. The reinforcing member 38 is presently a layer having a  
25 thickness in the range of approximately 2 - 4 mm. The screen 22 and the reinforcing member are adhered to one another throughout

the mutual boundary 40 of the holographic layer 26 and the reinforcing member 38. Adhesive, radiation and/or thermal bonding techniques may be utilized. The surface 42 of the reinforcing layer may also be treated, for example by one or more of the following: tinting, anti-glare coatings and anti-scratch coatings.

Various surfaces of the screen and/or its constituent layers may be provided with other optical lenses or lenticular arrays to control aspects of the projection screen bearing on performance characteristics other than color shift performance, as is known to do with conventional projection screens, without impairing the improved color shift performance of the three dimensional holographic projection screen. FIGURE 4 illustrates a first such variation wherein at least two holograms are superimposed or stacked. According to the example shown, a first hologram having a horizontal gain variation across a viewing field of  $\pm 40^\circ$  is stacked with a second hologram having a vertical gain variation across a field of  $\pm 20^\circ$ . The gain variations are suggested by shading in the drawing, but when not illuminated the actual holographic elements simply appear to be diffuse across their surfaces. The result of superimposing horizontal and vertical gain variation holograms is substantially equivalent to a center-only hologram; however, the brightness level is varied at different rates across the horizontal span and the vertical span, because the horizontal span is substantially larger than the vertical span.

FIGURE 5 is a graph of measured screen brightness as a

percentage of peak white brightness through a horizontal viewing span of  $\pm 40^\circ$ , at a point in the center of the screen. The two lines on the graph represent the brightness using only a horizontally varying hologram and brightness using stacked horizontally and vertically varying holograms. The horizontal brightness variation with stacked holograms is substantially equal or slightly improved over the performance of the horizontal hologram alone.

In designing a holographic screen for a variety of performance domains, it can be difficult to make a screen that implements all desired performance characteristics at once. Stacking allows the separate handling of different demands, such as vertical and horizontal variations in gain, the requirements for which may be different, for example due to the aspect ratio of the screen (i.e., wider than tall), or a need for an offset on one axis (e.g., vertical) while remaining centered on the other. This arrangement is not limited to two stacked holograms having linear or other gain variations, but is also applicable to additional stacked holograms, for example to control chromatic aberration or other aspects of light transmission through the screen, or to stacking with elements that improve edge brightness, color shift performance and the like.

FIGURE 6 illustrates a further variation in which a center-only hologram 26 (i.e., having horizontal and vertical gain variation) is stacked with linear fresnels 29, 31 for effecting horizontal and vertical collimation. This embodiment has favorable cost implications in that linear fresnels can be embossed or roller extruded inexpensively as compared with a circular fresnel. A

circular fresnel can account for as much as 60% of the cost of a conventional screen. A linear fresnel costs about 25% of the cost of a circular one. Therefore, a 30% cost savings is possible (i.e.,  $(25\% + 25\%) * 60\% = 30\%$ ). As with the horizontal and rotated  
5 holograms as discussed above, the linear fresnels can be varied across the horizontal and/or vertical viewing span as necessary, for example to vary the focal lengths independently in the vertical and horizontal spans. The two stacked linear fresnels can be placed in either order behind the holographic element.

22

## CLAIMS:

- 1           1. A projection television, comprising:  
2           a plurality of image projectors (14, 16, 18) for respective  
3 images of different colors;  
4           a projection screen (22) formed by at least one hologram (26)  
5 disposed on a substrate (24) superimposed on at least one light  
6 transmissive panel (38), said screen receiving images from said  
7 projectors on a first side and displaying said images on a second  
8 side with controlled light dispersion of said displayed images;  
9           at least one of said projectors (14, 16, 18) being oriented  
10 along an optical path converging with a path orthogonal to said  
11 screen, defining at least at one angle of incidence;  
12           said screen forming an interference array with optical  
13 properties varying horizontally and vertically across a field of view,  
14 the screen having a color shift less than or equal to approximately  
15 five for all said angles of incidence in a range greater than 0° and  
16 less than or equal to approximately 30°, as determined by the  
17 maximum value obtained from at least one of the following  
18 expressions:

$$C(\Theta) = 20 \circ \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{red}(\Theta)}{\text{blue}(\Theta)} \right);$$

19

$$C(\Theta) = 20 \circ \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{green}(\Theta)}{\text{blue}(\Theta)} \right)$$

20



23

21 where  $\theta$  is any angle within a range horizontal viewing angles,  $\alpha(\theta)$   
22 is the color shift at angle  $\theta$ ,  $\text{red}(\theta)$  is the red luminance level at  
23 angle  $\theta$ ,  $\text{blue}(\theta)$  is the blue luminance level at angle  $\theta$  and  $\text{green}(\theta)$   
24 is the green luminance level at angle  $\theta$ .

2. The projection television of claim 1, wherein the screen comprises at least two holograms stacked on one another, the holograms having independent variations in optical qualities across the field of view.

3. The projection screen of claim 2, wherein said at least two holograms have gain variations across horizontal and vertical spans of the field of view, respectively.

1 4. The projection screen of claim 1, wherein the screen  
2 (22) comprises at least one fresnel element (29, 31) superimposed  
3 on said at least one hologram.

1 5. The projection screen of claim 4, comprising at least two  
2 fresnel elements (29, 31) stacked behind the hologram, the at least  
3 two fresnel elements having independent collimating effects that  
4 are superimposed.

1 6. The projection screen of claim 5, wherein the at least  
2 two fresnel elements (29, 31) have varying optical properties across  
3 vertical and horizontal spans of the field of view, respectively.

1           7. The projection screen of claim 6, wherein the at least  
2 two fresnel elements (29, 31) have varying focal length across  
3 vertical and horizontal spans of the field of view, respectively.

1           8. The projection television of claim 1, wherein the color shift  
2 of said screen is less than or equal to approximately 2 for all said  
3 angles of incidence.

1           9. The projection television of claim 1, wherein:  
2 the color shift of said screen is less than or equal to  
3 approximately 2 for all said angles of incidence in a first subrange  
4 of angles of incidence greater than 0° and less than or equal to  
5 approximately 10°; and,

6 the color shift of said screen is less than or equal to  
7 approximately 5 for all said angles of incidence in a second  
8 subrange of angles of incidence greater than approximately 10° and  
9 less than or equal to approximately 30°.

1           10. The projection television of claim 1, wherein said screen  
2 (22) further comprises a light transmissive reinforcing support  
3 member (38).

1           11. The projection television of claim 10, wherein said  
2 reinforcing support member (38) comprises an acrylic.

25

1        12. The projection television of claim 1, wherein said  
2        substrate (24) comprises a transparent, water-repellent film.

1        13. The projection television of claim 1, wherein said  
2        substrate (24) comprises a polyethylene terephthalate resin.

1        14. The projection television of claim 12, wherein said  
2        substrate (24) comprises a film having a thickness in the range of  
3        approximately 1 - 10 mils.

1        15. The projection television of claim 1, wherein said at least  
2        one hologram comprises a three dimensional holographic photo  
3        polymer material disposed on said substrate (24).

1        16. The projection television of claim 1, wherein said at least  
2        one hologram comprises at least two stacked layers of photo  
3        polymer material on said substrate (24), together forming a three  
4        dimensional hologram (26).

1        17. The projection television of claim 1, further comprising a  
2        mirror (20) between said image projectors and said screen.

1        18. The projection television of claim 1, in which said three-  
2        dimensional hologram (26) has the following performance  
3        specifications:

4        Horizontal half viewing angle:  $38^\circ \pm 3^\circ$

26

- 5 Vertical half viewing angle:  $10^{\circ} \pm 1^{\circ}$
- 6 Screen gain:  $\geq 8$
- 7 Color shift:  $\leq 3$ .

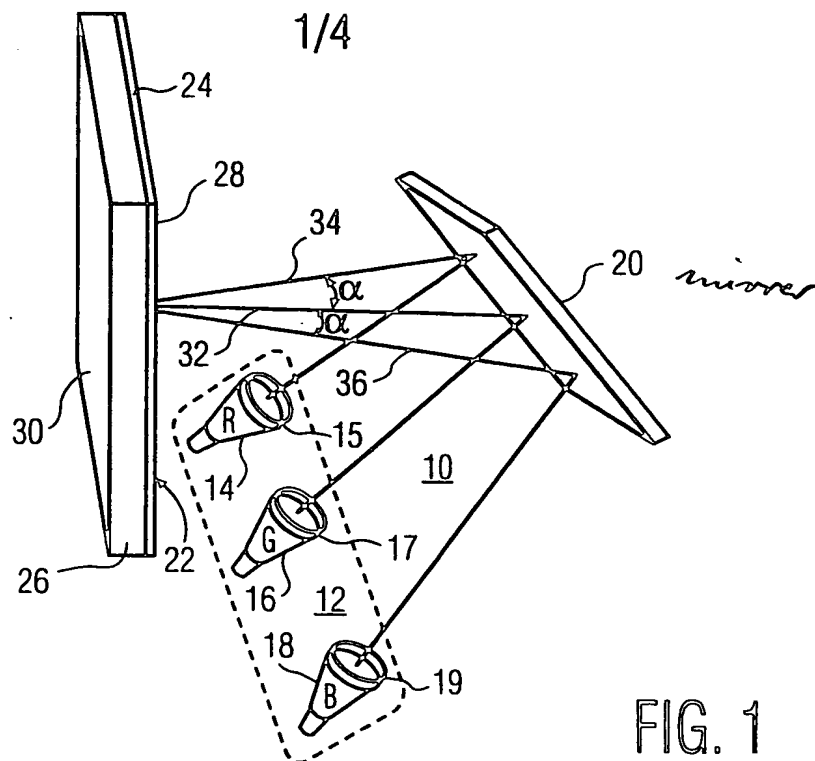


FIG. 1

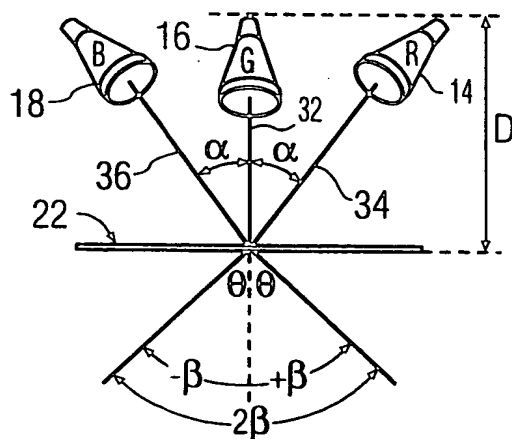


FIG. 2

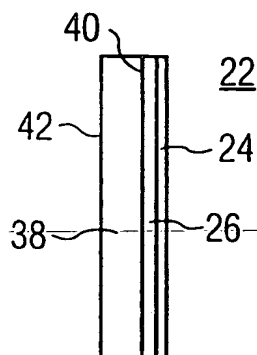


FIG. 3

2/4

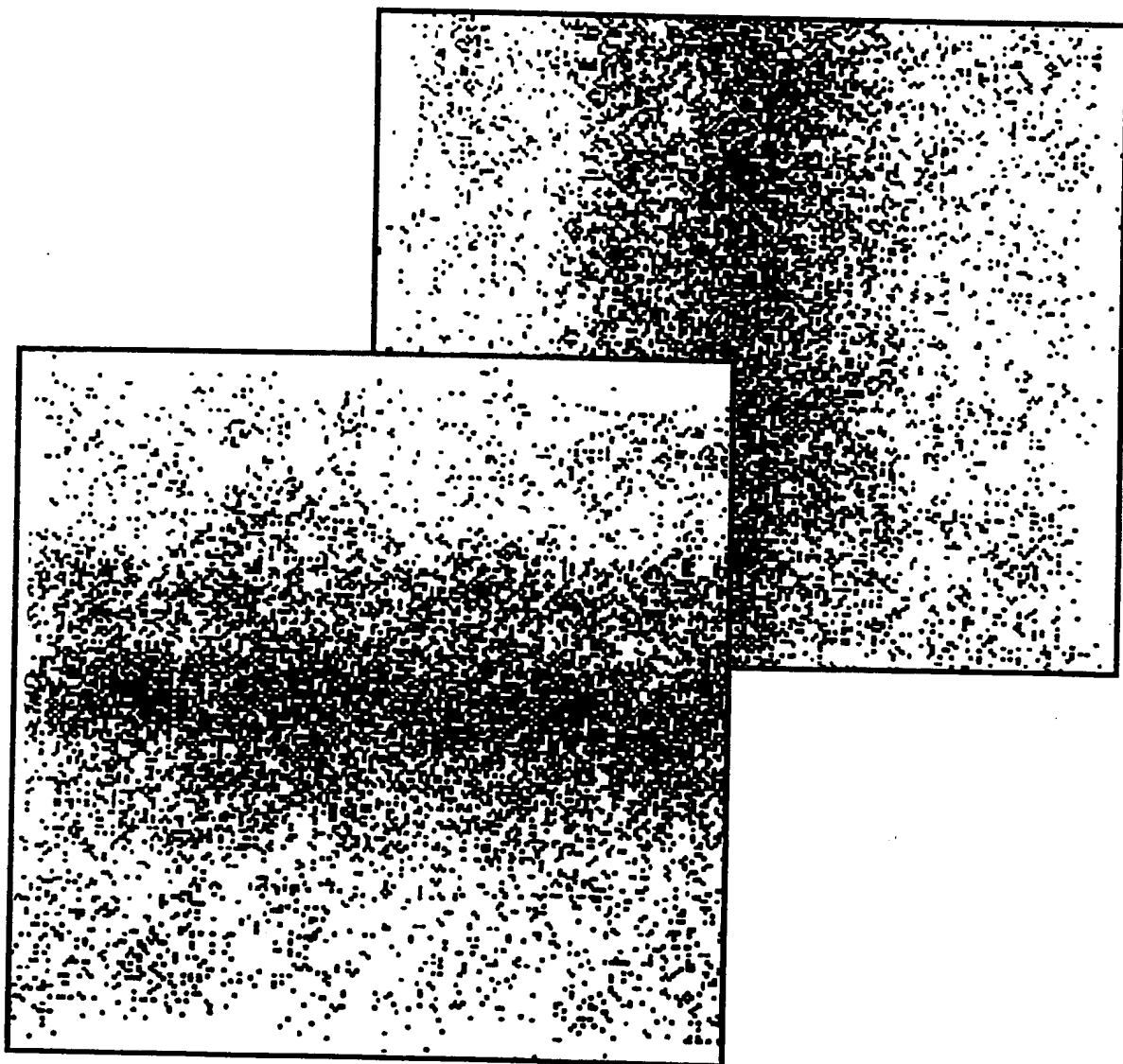


FIG. 4

3/4

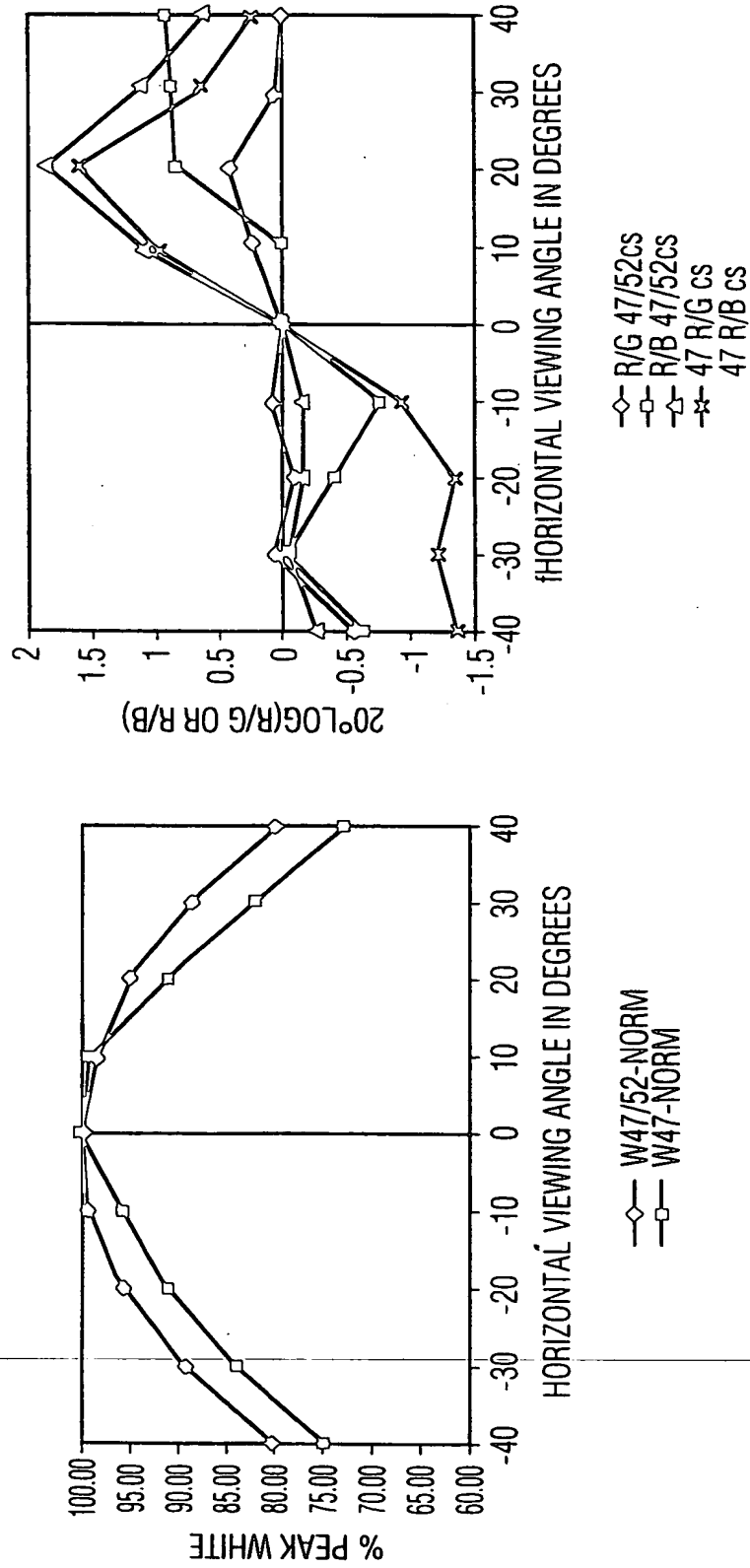


FIG. 5

4/4

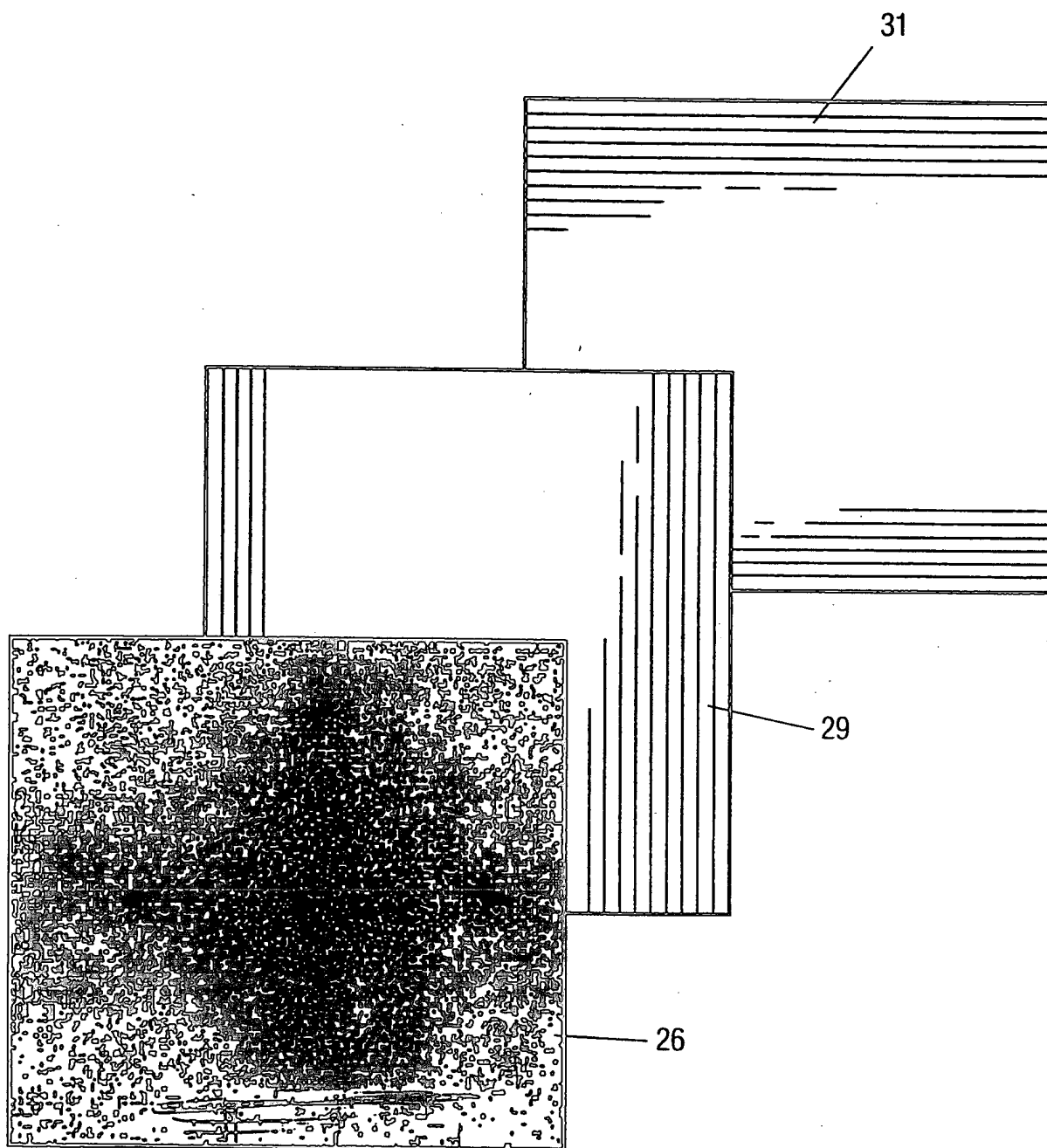


FIG. 6

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 98/01618

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 H04N9/31 G03B21/62 G02B5/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 H04N G03B G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
E	US 5 796 499 A (WENYON) 18 August 1998 see column 5, line 10 - column 9, line 51 ---	1
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 97, no. 7, 31 July 1997 & JP 09 073132 A (CASIO COMPUTER LTD), 18 March 1997 see abstract ---	1
A	WO 96 07953 A (PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.) 14 March 1996 see the whole document ---	1
A	US 5 046 793 A (HOCKLEY & AL.) 10 September 1991 see column 6, line 24 - column 8, line 31 --- -/--	1

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 October 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/10/1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA


European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Pigniez, T



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Int l Application No  
PCT/US 98/01618

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 18, no. 333 (P-1759), 23 June 1994 & JP 06 082625 A (RICOH CO LTD) see abstract	1
A	WO 97 10523 A (RICHMOND HOLOGRAPHIC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT LIMITED) 20 March 1997 see column 5, line 20 - column 6, line 34	1
A	WO 95 34832 A (THOMSON-CSF) 21 December 1995 see abstract; figures 4A, 4B see page 7, line 28 - page 8, line 15	1
A	WO 95 04303 A (PHYSICAL OPTICS CORPORATION) 9 February 1995 see abstract; figures 1, 9	1
A	EP 0 751 419 A (KURARAY CO) 2 January 1997 see page 1, line 12 - line 39	1
A	EP 0 671 653 A (MATSUSHITA) 13 September 1995 see abstract; figures 1-5	1

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Int'l Application No

PCT/US 98/01618

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5796499 A	18-08-1998	WO 9838536 A	03-09-1998
WO 9607953 A	14-03-1996	CN 1137318 A	04-12-1996
		EP 0727056 A	21-08-1996
		JP 9505416 T	27-05-1997
US 5046793 A	10-09-1991	CA 2008214 A,C	26-11-1990
WO 9710523 A	20-03-1997	AU 3481495 A	01-04-1997
		EP 0850428 A	01-07-1998
WO 9534832 A	21-12-1995	FR 2699289 A	17-06-1994
		EP 0714522 A	05-06-1996
		JP 9503078 T	25-03-1997
WO 9504303 A	09-02-1995	AU 6245994 A	28-02-1995
		CA 2168106 A	09-02-1995
		US 5609939 A	11-03-1997
EP 751419 A	02-01-1997	JP 9073003 A	18-03-1997
		US 5687024 A	11-11-1997
EP 671653 A	13-09-1995	JP 2790032 B	27-08-1998
		JP 7248537 A	26-09-1995
		CA 2144391 A	12-09-1995
		CN 1109601 A	04-10-1995

